REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 2 have been amended to improve the form of these claims. No new matter is being presented. Therefore, claims 1-33 are pending and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

AMENDMENTS OF CLAIMS 1 AND 2:

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to improve the form and the clarity of these claims. The amendments are not intended to affect the scope of the claims and should not be interpreted as doing so in any way.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 1-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ando et al. (U.S. Patent 6,373,803). These rejections are traversed.

Regarding the rejection of claim 1, it is noted that claim 1 recites a recording medium on which content stream data is recorded, comprising: a Stream OBject (SOB) formed with Stream OBject Units (SOBUs) which has a predetermined size and one or more stream packs. According to the claim, each of the stream packs has an Application Time Stamp (ATS) indicating reproducing time information and an application packet in which content stream data is packed, wherein each of the SOBUs, excluding a last SOBU, includes at least two entire ATSs.

Calling attention to the phrase, "wherein each of the SOBUs, excluding a last SOBU, includes at least two entire ATSs," applicants note that this feature leads to a situation in which IAPAT values of all SOBUs are correctly obtained and that since each SOBU has an IAPAT value which is distinguished from other IAPATs, program searching referring to a mapping list may be performed smoothly and without error. *See the specification at paragraph [0069].*

In contrast, according to the reference to Ando, which is directed to a recording data structure of stream data that is formed in units of stream blocks (or SOBUs) which have a predetermined data size, the last SOBU (stream block #2) includes an ATS, unlike the claimed invention. This fact is made clear by the discussion of the contents of data area 24 of FIG. 1 at column 16, lines 58-67 of the reference. Here, Ando discloses that a "plurality of time stamps

and transport packets (FIG. 1(a)) are packed in data [area]... 24." Thus, Ando cannot be said to disclose the claimed "wherein each of the SOBUs, excluding a last SOBU..., includes at least two entire ATSs," or the advantages discussed above.

This being said, applicants understand that the Examiner's position is that the claimed feature in question is disclosed by Ando at column 17, lines 5-8 and column 20, lines 57-59. However, a review of the reference reveals that the Examiner's reliance on these sections is misplaced. In detail, it is noted that the first section states that one sector size is 2048 bytes and that data area 24 can record approximately 10 transport packets for digital broadcast therein. Nothing is mentioned, however, that suggests that the data area 24 cannot, also contain an ATS. Similarly, the second section states that "...division must be done so that a pair of [a] time stamp and [a] transport packet completely fall within one stream block." Again, nothing in the reference suggests that this one stream block, into which the time stamp and the transport packet completely fall, cannot be the last stream block (or stream block #2 of FIG. 1).

Thus, applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 is patentably distinguished from the reference and that the claim is, therefore, allowable.

Regarding the rejections of claims 6, 15, 29, and 33, it is noted that these claims recite substantially similar features as claim 1, at least with regard to the claim 1 recitation of "wherein each of the SOBUs, excluding a last SOBU, includes at least two entire ATSs." Thus, these claims are also believed to be patentably distinguished from claim 1 for substantially similar reasons as set forth above. Therefore, these claims are also believed to be allowable.

Regarding the rejections of the claims that depend from claims 1, 6, 15, 29, and 33, it is noted that these claims are believed to be allowable for at least set forth above with respect to the independent claims in this application.

Regarding the rejection of claim 20, it is noted that claim 20 recites a SOBU generating unit which inserts a stuffing packet for correction having a predetermined ATS which has a value that is the same as an ATS among ATSs included in a SOBU located immediately before one of the SOBUs having no corresponding ATS.

In contrast, Ando discloses that the stuffing byte is used to maintain the predetermined length of a stream pack. Further, Ando discloses that the stuffing occurs before the first application time stamp and after the last application packet is already done a given stream packet. Accordingly, with this automatic stuffing, a stream packet can always have a required length. However, at no time does Ando disclose any subject matter that relates to the ideas of inserting a stuffing packet for correction having a predetermined ATS which has a value that is

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the same as an ATS among ATSs included in a SOBU located immediately before one of the SOBUs having no corresponding ATS.

Thus, claim 20 as well as dependent claims 21-26, is believed to be patentably distinguished from the reference. Therefore, claims 20-26 are also believed to be allowable.

Regarding the rejection of claim 27, it is noted that claim 27 recites that "a last one of the SOBUs...has no corresponding ATS." Thus, it is believed that claim 27 is patentably distinguished from Ando for substantially similar reasons as set forth above with respect to claim 1. Therefore, claim 27 and dependent claim 28 are believed to be allowable.
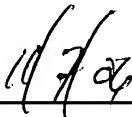
CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited. If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Finally, if there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

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